Distance covered by goods carrier truck

†370. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a goods carrier truck should cover a distance of 350 to 400 km. per day whereas in India on an average it hardly covers a distance of upto 200 km. per day;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have identified the reasons of not covering the requisite distance by trucks according to their capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the average estimated economic losses incurred per day due to less coverage of distance by the trucks than their capacities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (d) Road Transport falls under the purview of State Governments. Freight transport by road is almost entirely in the private sector. No statistics is maintained in this Ministry regarding daily coverage of distance by trucks.

Expenditure on transport

†371. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expenditure on transport in the country has increased upto 10 to 12 per cent during the last six months;

(b) if not, Government's assessment in this regard;

(c) whether the main reasons for increase in this expenditure is the cost of petrol and diesel being used as fuel; and

†Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the share of expenditure on fuel out of the total expenditure on transport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H.MUNIAPPA): (a) to (d) Road Transport falls under the purview of the State Governments. Freight transport operation is almost entirely in the private sector and passenger transport is also mostly in the private sector. No statistics is maintained regarding cost of road transport in the Ministry.

National Sea waterways

372. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI B.J.PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to develop the National Sea waterways on the lines of the National Highways, with a budgetary support of Rs. 3500 crores for the first phase during the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its present status;

(c) the ports that are proposed to be developed for the purpose especially those falling in the State of Orissa; and

(d) the details of specific plans drawn up, as part of the National Sea Waterways initiative, to develop and maintain the approach and entrance channels to the major ports to provide for future growth in traffic and demafid for additional berthing capacity, as also to improve the rail and road connectivity to these major ports?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The draft Policy for the Maritime Sector (Ports, Merchant Shipping and Inland Water Transport) proposes declaration of port channels as National Sea Waterways in a phased manner beginning with major ports. The Policy is yet to be finalised.